Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7466
DEA WASHDC
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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PARIS: FOR DEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, SHUM, UN, AF SUBJECT: UN AND DEA COOPERATE IN SUCCESSFUL NARCOTICS TRAINING SEMINAR FOR AFGHAN OFFICIALS AT KABUL

1. FROM APRIL 8 TO 18, A VERY SUCCESSFUL "BASIC NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT TRAINING SCHOOL" WAS CONDUCTED AT KABUL. WITH THE SUPPORT OF USG FUNDING AND A VISITING TEAM OF AMERICAN NARCOTICS EXPERTS FROM THE DEA INTERNATIONAL TRAINING TEAM, THE LOCAL UNITED NATIONS NARCOTICS ADVISOR AND DEA/KABUL ASSISTED THE AFGHAN MINISTRIES OF INTERIOR, JUSTICE, AND FINANCE TO ORGANIZE A PRODUCTIVE TEN-DAY SESSION. FORTY AFGHAN OFFICIALS PARTICIPATED IN THE SEMINAR, INCLUDING JUDGES, PUBLIC PROSECUTORS, CUSTOMS OFFICIALS AND POLICE. ACTING DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE MOHAMMAD AKRAM ABKARI AND OTHER HIGH AFGHAN JUSTICE OFFICIALS OFFICIATED AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY, WHERE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACHIEVEMENT CERTIFICATES WERE GIVEN TO THE PARTICIPANTS.

2. COMMENT: EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES WERE IMPRESSED WITH THE PROFESSIONAL INTEREST DISPLAYED BY THE AFGHAN PARTICIPANTS, AS WELL AS THE EXCELLENT HIGH-LEVEL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN. ON A HUMAN RIGHTS NOTE, THE EMBASSY WAS GRATIFIED TO NOTE: (1) THE EXTENSIVE ATTENTION GIVEN AT

THE SEMINAR TO THE USE OF PROPER LEGAL PROCEDURES UNDER THE NEW AFGHAN CONSTITUTION; AND (2) THAT SIX OF THE FORTY PARTICIPANTS WERE FEMALE OFFICIALS, ALL OF WHOM HOLD RESPONSIBLE PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS (ONE, FOR EXAMPLE, IS A PUBLIC PROSECUTOR FOR THE PROVINCE OF KABUL).

3. ALTHOUGH AFGHAN GOVERNMENT POLICY REQUIRES THAT SUCH EVENTS BE STATED UNDER UN AUSPICES -- AND WE, FOR OUR PART, ALSO PREFER TO EMPHASIZE THE MULTILATERAL CHARACTER OF THE ANTI-OPIUM EFFORTS HERE, THE MAIN CREDIT FOR THIS HIGHLY EFFECTIVE PROGRAM CLEARLY BELONGS TO THE SEVERAL DEA OFFICERS WHO INVESTED SO MUCH TIME AND EXPERTISE.

ELIOT

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